

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 HEW-06 AID-05 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12

NEA-10 OIC-02 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01 COME-00

AGRE-00 L-03 DODE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 IOE-00 STR-04

/124 W

-----222041 002473 /42

P 221925Z FEB 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5396

INFO AMEMBWSSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YOGK

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 1292

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGY: SNAR, UNCND

SUBJECT: UN COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS - AGENDA ITEM 8 -  
WORLD REQUIREMENTS FOR AND SUPPLY OF OPIATES FOR  
MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES

REF: GENEVA 1239 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: ON FEBRUARY 17/18, CND CONSIDERED AGENDA ITEM #8,  
"WORLD REQUIREMENTS OF OPIATES FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES  
AND THE POSITION IN REGARD TO THEIR SUPPLY." DISCUSSION CENTERED  
ON PROJECTED WORLD-WIDE OVERSUPPLY OF NARCOTIC RAW MATERIALS,  
ESTIMATED TO REACH 100 TONS OF MORPHINE EQUIVALENT BY 1980, AND  
ON DEA PROPOSED REGULATIONS CONCERNING COMMERCIAL CULTIVATION OF  
PAPAVER BRACTEATUM IN THE US. SPEAKERS GENERALLY CALLED FOR IMCB  
TO CONTINUE TO STUDY SUPPLY AND DEMAND AND TO DEVELOP LONG-RANGE  
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SUPPLY FORECASTS TO GUIDE POLICY MAKERS. THEY ALSO CALLED FOR  
PRODUCTION RESTRAINT BY TRADITIONAL NARCOTIC RAW MATERIAL PRODUCERS  
AND FOR DEFERRING COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION OF PAPAVER BRACTEATQM  
UNTIL SUPPLY STUDIES AND ONGOING RESEARCH HAD BEEN COMPLETED.  
USREP STRESSED THAT USG HAD NOT MADE DECISION ON PENDING DEA PRO-  
POSAL REGARDING US CULTIVATION OF PAPAVER BRACTEATUM AND THAT  
VIEWS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED PRIOR TO

SUCH DECISION. END SUMMARY.

2. INCB CHAIRMAN REUTER INTRODUCED ITEM 8 BY NOTING THE PROGRESSIVE INCREASE IN OPIATE DEMAND, EXPECTED TO REACH 200 TONS OF MORPHINE EQUIVALENT BY 1980. REUTER INDICATED THAT OPIATE SUPPLIES TREND COULD BE EXPECTED TO ACCELERATE IN 1977. RESULTANT OVERSUPPLY COULD PRODUCE GREATER PROBLEMS THAN PREVIOUS UNDER-SUPPLY. HE NOTED THAT NEW RESEARCH DEVELOPMENTS COULD INCREASE MORPHINE YIELD, AND HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GOVERNMENTS WOULD PRODUCE ONLY ENOUGH NARCOTIC RAW MATERIAL TO MEET INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS.

3. NARCOTICS LABORATORY DIRECTOR BRAENDEN REPORTED ON UN COORDINATED INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TO IMPROVE CONTROL AND MORPHINE YIELDS PER UNIT AREA OF PAPAVER SOMNIFERUM AND PAPAVER BRACTEATUM.

4. CANADIAN REP, AFTER INTRODUCING HIS WORKING PAPER ON "DEMAND AND SUPPLY IN THE LICIT INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN OPIATES AND THEIR RAW MATERIALS," EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR EXTENDED FORECASTING OF WORLD-WIDE OPIATE SUPPLY SO THAT POLICY MAKERS WOULD BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THE OPIATE SUPPLY-DEMAND EQUILIBRIUM ENVISAGED BY THE TREATIES. HE SAID THAT HIS DATA SHOWED A CURRENT WORLD-WIDE OPIATE OVERSUPPLY, EXPECTED TO REACH AN EXCESS OF 100 TONS OF MORPHINE EQUIVALENT BY 1980. HE REMINDED GOVERNMENTS OF THE COSTLY NARCOTIC CONTROL EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN BY POOR COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE BEEN TRADITIONAL PRODUCERS, AND URGED GOVERNMENTS NOT TO MAKE THEIR TASK MORE DIFFICULT. TURNING SPECIFICALLY TO PROPOSED US CULTIVATION OF PAPAVER BRACTEATUM, CANADIAN REP SAID THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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A QUESTION AROSE AS TO WHETHER EXISTING POPPY STRAW CONTROLS IN THE AMENDED SINGLE CONVENTION COULD BE INTERPRETED TO COVER PAPAVER BRACTEATUM. IF NOT, MEASURES TO BRING PAPAVER BRACTEATUM UNDER TREATY CONTROL ARE NEEDED AND UNCND SHOULD CONSIDER APPROPRIATE TREATY AMENDMENTS AT ITS 1978 SESSION. CANADIAN REP ALSO STRESSED THE NEED FOR A DETAILED STUDY OF THE POTENTIAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACT OF SHIFTING FROM PAPAVER SOMNIFERUM TO PAPAVER BRACTEATUM AS A MAJOR CODEINE SOURCE. HE CALLED FOR CONTINUATION OF INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH COORDINATED BY THE UN LABORATORY AS A BASIS FOR MORE INFORMED PRODUCTION DECISIONS.

5. A FEW DELEGATES (AUSTRALIA, UK, FRANCE) QUESTIONED SOME OF THE ASSUMPTIONS UNDERLYING THE PROJECTIONS OF WORLD-WIDE OPIATE OVERSUPPLY; HOWEVER, THE MAJORITY OF THE FIFTEEN DELEGATES WHO SPOKE SUPPORTED THE BASIC APPROACH OF THE CANADIAN PAPER WHICH OPPOSED COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION OF PAPAVER BRACTEATUM PENDING FURTHER INCB STUDY OF ALL RELEVANT FACTORS AND COMPLETION OF ONGOING UN LABORATORY RESEARCH. SEVERAL DELEGATES (YUGOSLAVIA, ITALY, CANADA) STRESSED THAT REGARDLESS OF THE APPLICABILITY OF

THE SINGLE CONVENTION, GOVERNMENTS HAVE AN OVERRIDING "MORAL OBLIGATION" TO REFRAIN FROM INITIATING PAPAVER BRACTEATUM PRODUCTION. THEY AND OTHERS EMPHASIZED THAT PRODUCTION OF PAPAVER BRACTEATUM IN THE US WOULD HAVE A SERIOUS ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON POOR COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE BEEN TRADITIONAL NARCOTIC RAW MATERIAL PRODUCERS. FURTHERMORE, A DECISION BY THE UNITED STATES TO BECOME A PRODUCER WOULD BE SEEN AS COMMERCIALY MOTIVATED, UNDERMINING THE CREDIBILITY OF THE USG IN INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL. SOME SPEAKERS CITED THE 1972 PROTOCOL AS A RECENT EXAMPLE OF SUCH USG LEADERSHIP.

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 HEW-06 AID-05 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12  
NEA-10 OIC-02 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00  
SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01 COME-00  
AGRE-00 L-03 DODE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 IOE-00 STR-04  
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6. IN COMMENTS REPORTED IN DETAIL IN REFTEL, TURKISH DELEGATE EMPHASIZED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY JUSTIFYING SACRIFICES ALREADY MADE IN TURKEY'S EFFORT TO CONTROL OPIUM POPPY PRODUCTION. THE INDIAN DELEGATE NOTED THAT IN RESPONSE TO A CONSENSUS OF THE CND AT A PREVIOUS SESSION, HIS GOVERNMENT HAD INVESTED SCARCE NATIONAL RESOURCES TO INCREASE OPIUM PRODUCTION TO HELP MEET WORLDWIDE MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS. IN THIS CONNECTION SUBSTANTIAL EXPENDITURE HAD BEEN MADE TO ENSURE STRICT CONTROL OF INCREASED PRODUCTION. WHILE STRESSING THAT FRG ITSELF HAD NO INTENTION OF PRODUCING PAPAVER BRACTEATUM, FRG DELEGATE CALLED FOR TRADITIONAL PRODUCER COUNTRIES TO REFRAIN FROM RAISING PRICES

DURING TIMES OF SHORTAGE, AND NOTED THAT OTHERWISE PRODUCTION BY OTHERS WOULD BE ENCOURAGED.

7. VARIOUS DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING THE US, SUPPORTED THE CANADIAN RECOMMENDATION FOR INCB STUDY OF SUPPLY-DEMAND SITUATION, FOR FULL UNCLASSIFIED

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AND TIMELY REPORTING BY GOVERNMENTS OF OPIATE PRODUCTION AND TRADE, AND FOR LONG-TERM SUPPLY-DEMAND FORECASTING AS GUIDE TO POLICY MAKERS. CANADIAN IDEA OF POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY AGREEMENT WAS NOT SUPPORTED BY ANY SPEAKER.

8. RESPONDING TO STATEMENTS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS, USREP EMPHASIZED THAT USG DECISION REGARDING PAPAVER BRACTEATUM CULTIVATION HAS NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN REACHED AND THAT PENDING PROPOSAL WOULD BE CAREFULLY WEIGHED IN THE LIGHT OF MANY FACTORS, BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL. SHE GAVE PERSONAL ASSURANCE THAT VIEWS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO ALL US AUTHORITIES CONCERNED AND WOULD BE STUDIED WITH THE MOST CAREFUL ATTENTION. SHE NOTED THAT THE PROPOSAL UNDER CONSIDERATION ENVISAGED SEVERELY RESTRICTED PRODUCTION BEGINNING AT 5 PERCENT OF US DOMESTIC REQUIREMENTS THE FIRST YEAR AND REACHING A MAXIMUM OF 20 PERCENT FIVE YEARS AFTER IMPLEMENTATION OF DEA PROPOSED REGULATIONS.

9. CONCLUDING THE CND DISCUSSION GEMDAMEIN THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT THE COMMISSION TAKE NOTE OF THE DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND OF THE DISCUSSION WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE. HE NOTED THAT THE DISCUSSION WOULD BE REFLECTED IN THE COMMISSION'S REPORT TO ECOSOC AND THAT A DRAFT OF THE REPORT WOULD BE CIRCULATED FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION. CATTO

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## Message Attributes

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